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## India

**Post:** New Delhi

### FSSAI Adopts Vertical Standards for Food Additives

**Report Categories:**

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

Exporter Guide

FAIRS Subject Report

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**Report Highlights:**

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) published in India's official gazette a draft regulation which proposes to adopt 46 food additive standards previously issued by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution's Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS). A similar draft notice published by FSSAI in June 2016 also stipulated that FSSAI would accept comments from World Trade Organization (WTO) member countries for a period of 60 days following publication on the WTO's website, which occurred in September. Subsequently, the 60-day comment period for WTO members expired on November 19, 2016.

## **General Information:**

**DISCLAIMER:** The information contained in this report was retrieved from the GOI and WTO websites: <http://www.fssai.gov.in/> and [www.wto.org](http://www.wto.org). The Office of Agricultural Affairs and/or the U.S. Government make no claim of accuracy or authenticity.

On December 2, 2016, FSSAI published a draft notification in the Official Gazette of India vis-à-vis the adoption of 46 BIS for food additive standards. The gazetted notification also provides for a 30-days comment period, although comments will only be accepted from domestic stakeholders.

FSSAI's standard practice for all draft notifications is to provide a 30-day comment period for domestic stakeholders after the original draft notification, and then an additional 30 days for domestic stakeholders after the notification is gazetted (but still not finalized). WTO members are afforded one 60-day comment period after the original draft notification on FSSAI's website. The objective of this practice is an attempt to provide 60 days to interested parties regarding comments. Foreign, nongovernmental stakeholders such as industry bodies or others (*e.g.* those not covered under the 'WTO member' category) that would like to comment can provide their comments to their importers and/or Indian interactors. According to guidance from FSSAI, Indian stakeholders can forward these comments to FSSAI during the abovementioned 30-day domestic stakeholder comment period.

For more details on the notification, please click at: [Gazette Notification](#). It is also available on the FSSAI's website [fssai@gov.in](mailto:fssai@gov.in).